

CONFIDENTIAL

DOCUMENT ID: 49070606
INQNO: DOCLAD 00050893
DOCNO:
PRODUCER:
SOURCE: STATE
DOCTYPE:
DOR: 19841019
TOR: 18100000
DOCPREC: R
ORIGDATE: 198410191810
DOCCLASS: C

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
2000

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR
RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION
IN THIS DOCUMENT

HEADER
PP RUEAIIB
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
UTS4179
PP RUEHC
DE RUFHFR #0034/01 2931610
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 191559Z OCT 84
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9428
BT
EZ1:

STATE DEPT. DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW

☐ Retain class'n
☒ Declassify
Change/classify to _____
with concurrence of _____
after _____
EO 12958, 25X
IPS/CR/IR by SJ Date: 8/30/01

CONTROLS
CONFIDENTIAL PARIS 40034
EZ2:

TEXT
E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: SHUM, XX
SUBJECT: COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES:
FRANCE
REF: STATE 271064
1. C - ENTIRE TEXT
-
2. FOLLOWING IN PARA 3 IS TEXT OF EMBASSY DRAFT
1984 HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT FOR FRANCE.
-
-
3. BEGIN TEXT:

INTRODUCTION

FRANCE IS A DEMOCRACY WITH FULL AND EFFECTIVE
CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES OF HUMAN RIGHTS, FREELY
FUNCTIONING POLITICAL PARTIES, AND REGULAR ELECTIONS.
VOTER PARTICIPATION (WITH UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE) IS
HIGH. ELECTIONS AT THE LOCAL AS WELL AS NATIONAL LEVEL
ARE OCCASIONS FOR IDEOLOGICAL AND TOPICAL DEBATE;
EVEN LOCAL ELECTIONS ARE TRANSFORMED BY PUBLIC OPINION
INTO REFERENDUMS ON THE DIRECTION OF NATIONAL
GOVERNMENTAL POLICY.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2007

FOR COORDINATION WITH ed State

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

FRANCE HAS A HIGHLY DEVELOPED INDUSTRIAL ECONOMY COMPRISING A MIXTURE OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. THE PUBLIC SECTOR WAS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY DURING THE FIRST YEAR-AND-A-HALF OF THE MITTERRAND GOVERNMENT WHEN, IN FULFILLMENT OF SOCIALIST PARTY CAMPAIGN PROMISES, A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT PRIVATE INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES AND MOST OF THE REMAINING PRIVATE BANKS WERE NATIONALIZED. MOST OF THE ECONOMY IS STILL PRIVATELY CONTROLLED, HOWEVER, AND NO FIRMS OR BANKS WERE NATIONALIZED IN 1984.

HUMAN RIGHTS IS PERHAPS THE SINGLE MOST CONSISTENT TENET OF THE MITTERRAND GOVERNMENT. FRENCH LEADERS SPEAK OUT FREQUENTLY ON WORLDWIDE ABUSES OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND MAKE FREQUENT REFERENCE TO THE PROTECTION OF THESE RIGHTS WITHIN FRANCE. IN JANUARY 1984 THE GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED A CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO ADVISE THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS ON ALL MATTERS RELATING TO FRENCH DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF FRENCH FOREIGN POLICY.

DURING 1984, JUSTICE MINISTER BADINTER PROCEEDED WITH ADDITIONAL LEGAL REFORMS AND PUT FORWARD MEASURES AIMED AT EXPANDING INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES, PROTECTING VICTIMS' RIGHTS AND INCREASING JUDICIAL DISCRETION PARTICULARLY IN INDIVIDUAL SENTENCING.

SECTION 1

RESPECT FOR THE INTEGRITY OF THE PERSON, INCLUDING FREEDOM FROM:

A. UNLAWFUL OR ARBITRARY DEPRIVATION OF LIFE

THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT CONDONE POLITICAL KILLING. ACTS OF TERRORISM CAUSING LOSS OF LIFE REMAINED AT ABOUT THE SAME LEVEL AS IN 1983. SOME 200 TERRORIST INCIDENTS RESULTED IN APPROXIMATELY 16 DEATHS AS OF OCTOBER 1984. MOST ACTS OF TERRORISM WERE CARRIED OUT OR CLAIMED BY NON-FRENCH GROUPS WITH TIES TO MIDDLE EASTERN, INCLUDING ARMENIAN, TERRORIST GROUPS. IN 1984, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL MURDERS CONTINUED TO BE CARRIED OUT IN FRANCE, MOST NOTABLY THAT OF THE UAE AMBASSADOR AND TWO PROMINENT SHAH-ERA IRANIANS.

TERRORISM BY INDIGENOUS GROUPS, AND REPRISALS AGAINST BASQUE SEPARATISTS RESIDENT IN FRANCE, WERE FRANCE'S PRINCIPAL POLITICAL/SECURITY PROBLEM IN 1984. IN AN EFFORT TO CONTAIN THIS VIOLENCE, AND IN RESPONSE TO SPANISH GOVERNMENT REQUESTS, THE GOF IN 1984 EMBARKED ON A PROGRAM OF "ASSIGNED RESIDENCE" OF BASQUES SUSPECTED OF SEPARATIST/TERRORIST CONNECTIONS TO NORTHERN FRANCE, AND EXPELLED NEARLY THIRTY OTHER

CONFIDENTIAL

SUSPECTED BASQUE TERRORISTS TO LATIN AMERICA AND, IN SEPTEMBER, TO AFRICA. THREE BASQUES FACING MURDER CHARGES IN SPAIN WERE EXTRADITED IN SEPTEMBER, FOLLOWING A FAVORABLE COURT RULING AND EXHAUSTION OF ALL LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: SHUM, XX

SUBJECT: COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES:

AMERICAN CORPORATIONS RECEIVED NUMEROUS BOMB THREATS DURING 1984. IN MARCH, THE U.S. CONSUL GENERAL IN STRASBOURG WAS THE TARGET OF AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT CLAIMED BY THE SO-CALLED LEBANESE ARMED REVOLUTIONARY FACTION. THIS GROUP OR PERSONS USING THE LARF NAME HAD CLAIMED SEVERAL OTHER ATTACKS AGAINST U.S. AND ISRAELI DIPLOMATS SINCE 1981. THE THREAT LEVEL AGAINST U.S. CITIZENS IN FRANCE REMAINS VERY HIGH.

THERE WERE SEVERAL BOMBINGS OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT INSTALLATIONS AND OF PRIVATE CONCERNS WITH PURPORTED DEFENSE AND NATO CONNECTIONS CLAIMED BY THE INDIGENOUS ANARCHIST TERRORIST GROUP, "DIRECT ACTION". GOF AUTHORITIES HAVE JAILED SEVERAL SUSPECTED MEMBERS OF "DIRECT ACTION", ALTHOUGH SEVERAL OF ITS LEADERS ARE STILL AT LARGE. IN OCTOBER, SOME "DIRECT ACTION" MEMBERS HELD FOR QUESTIONING BEGAN A HUNGER STRIKE TO PROTEST THEIR DETENTION. SEPARATIST GROUPS TOOK CREDIT FOR SEVERAL BOMBINGS IN MARTINIQUE AND GUADELOUPE, MAINLY AGAINST FRENCH GOVERNMENT AND TOURIST TARGETS.

THE FRONT FOR THE NATIONAL LIBERATION OF CORSICA, A CORSICAN SEPARATIST GROUP WHICH HAS TRADITIONALLY LIMITED ITS ATTACKS TO MAINLANDER PROPERTY, CONTINUED TO BOMB PROPERTY, IN CORSICA AND ON MAINLAND FRANCE, IN AN EFFORT, INTER ALIA, TO PRESSURE THE GOF TO TREAT JAILED FLNC MEMBERS AS POLITICAL PRISONERS. AS OF MID-OCTOBER, THE GOF HAS NOT RESPONDED TO THESE DEMANDS. CONTINUING THE TREND FOR THE 1980'S, ELEVEN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WERE KILLED THROUGHOUT FRANCE (AS OO 10/12/84) IN 1984.

B. DISAPPEARANCE

THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT FRENCH SECURITY SERVICES HAVE ENGAGED IN ABDUCTION OR SECRET ARRESTS.

C. TORTURE AND CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT
OR PUNISHMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

FREEDOM FROM TORTURE IS GUARANTEED BY LAW AND RESPECTED BY PRACTICE. THERE HAVE BEEN NO CREDIBLE ALLEGATIONS OF THE USE OF TORTURE.

-
D. ARBITRARY ARREST, DETENTION, OR EXILE

-
FRENCH LAW GUARANTEES FREEDOM FROM ARBITRARY ARREST AND IMPRISONMENT. THERE IS NO DIRECT EQUIVALENT OF HABEAS CORPUS IN THE FRENCH LEGAL SYSTEM, BUT A SUSPECT CAN BE HELD ONLY FOR UP TO TWO DAYS -- FOUR FOR DRUG CASES -- BEFORE BEING TRANSFERRED TO A MAGISTRATE FOR INVESTIGATION. SEVERAL ARMENIANS ARRESTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE JULY 1983 ORLY AIRPORT BOMBING STILL AWAIT TRIAL.

-
THE FRENCH JUDICIARY PLAYS AN IMPORTANT, DETERMINING ROLE IN THE DETENTION PROCESS. GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY TO HOLD A PERSON BEYOND THE PRESCRIBED PERIODS IS SEVERELY RESTRICTED AND MUST BE ORDERED BY THE COMPETENT COURT.

-
FRANCE HAS FOR MANY DECADES BEEN A HOME TO THOUSANDS OF PERSONS FLEEING POLITICAL OR RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION. THERE ARE NO SUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS OF PERSONS BEING EXILED FROM MODERN-DAY FRANCE, ALTHOUGH THE EXPULSION OF BASQUES FROM FRANCE, JUSTIFIED BY THE GOF ON PUBLIC SECURITY GROUNDS, HAS RAISED CONCERNS THAT, GIVEN ENOUGH ACCEPTING STATES, THIS PRACTICE MIGHT BE EXPANDED.

-
E. DENIAL OF FAIR PUBLIC TRIAL

-
THE RIGHT OF FAIR, PUBLIC TRIAL IS GUARANTEED BY LAW AND RESPECTED IN PRACTICE. SUSPECTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO LEGAL COUNSEL AS SOON AS THEIR CASE IS TRANSFERRED FROM THE POLICE OR MAGISTRATE.

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: SHUM, XX

SUBJECT: COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES:

-
FOR MISDEMEANORS, PRETRIAL CONFINEMENT IS LIMITED NORMALLY TO FOUR MONTHS, WITH POSSIBLE EXTENSIONS IN SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES NOT TO EXCEED EIGHT MONTHS. FOR FELONIES, PRETRIAL CONFINEMENT IS NOT LIMITED. FRENCH LAW PROVIDES FOR THE RIGHT OF APPEAL, EXCEPT IN JURY TRIALS OF FELONY CASES.

-
TRIALS IN FRANCE ARE NORMALLY OPEN AND PUBLIC, THOUGH PROVISIONS EXIST FOR THE DEFENSE TO REQUEST A CLOSED PROCEEDING. DISCUSSION IS UNDERWAY ON THE POSSIBILITY OF PUBLICLY BROADCASTING THE UPCOMING TRIAL OF **KLAUS BARBIE**, THE FORMER NAZI GESTAPO AGENT IN LYON. THE PRESS HAS FREE ACCESS TO RECORDS OF COURT PROCEEDINGS,

CONFIDENTIAL

THOUGH CASES IN THE INVESTIGATORY OR TRIAL STAGES ARE PROTECTED UNDER FRENCH LAW FROM DISCLOSURE BY THE PROSECUTOR. THOUGH THE JUDICIARY IS INDEPENDENT, THE COURTS ARE NOT IMMUNE FROM SUBTLE POLITICAL OR PUBLIC PRESSURE ON CERTAIN CASES.

THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THE GOVERNMENT DETAINS ANY PERSON SOLELY FOR POLITICAL REASONS. THERE ARE NO SERIOUS CHARGES OF POLITICAL MOTIVATION IN THE DETENTION OF PERSONS. TO THE CONTRARY, THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF ENFORCEMENT LAXITY IN THE AFTERMATH OF SEVERAL VIOLENT CRIMES CARRIED OUT BY COMMON CRIMINALS WHO WERE AMNESTIED AND RELEASED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN 1981

THE 1984 REPORT OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER THE STATUS OF CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS. PENDING COMPLETION OF LEGISLATIVE REFORMS, LEGAL PROCEEDINGS HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED AGAINST INDIVIDUALS WHOSE REQUESTS FOR CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR STATUS WERE REJECTED. THERE ARE STILL SOME INDIVIDUALS, HOWEVER, WHO ARE NOW SERVING PRISON TERMS IMPOSED BY THE PERMANENT TRIBUNALS OF THE ARMED FORCES PRIOR TO 1983, BECAUSE THEY DID NOT PRESENT SUCH A REQUEST AND REFUSED MILITARY SERVICE.

F. ARBITRARY INTERFERENCE WITH PRIVACY, FAMILY, HOME OR

CORRESPONDENCE

FRENCH LAW GUARANTEES FREEDOM FROM INVASION OF PRIVACY AND THIS IS RESPECTED IN PRACTICE. THE SEARCH OF A PRIVATE RESIDENCE REQUIRES A SEARCH WARRANT. SEARCHES MUST TAKE PLACE BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 6 P.M. EXCEPT IN SPECIAL CASES (SUCH AS DRUG OFFENSES) WHEN THE SEARCH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN AT ANY TIME. TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS MAY BE MONITORED IN CONJUNCTION WITH CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS WITH A COURT ORDER AND IN NATIONAL SECURITY CASES WITH ADMINISTRATIVE DECREE FROM THE AGENCY CONDUCTING THE INVESTIGATION. THE GOVERNMENT HAS OCCASIONALLY OPENED CORRESPONDENCE TO ENFORCE CURRENCY REGULATIONS, THOUGH THIS IS NOT A WIDESPREAD PRACTICE.

SECTION 2-RESPECT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, INCLUDING:

A. FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND PRESS

PRESS FREEDOMS ARE GUARANTEED BY LAW AND RESPECTED IN PRACTICE. CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES IS LEGALLY PROTECTED. NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES ARE FREE FROM

CONFIDENTIAL

GOVERNMENT CONTROL AND CARRY VIEWS RANGING ACROSS THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM. MAJOR RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS ARE PUBLICLY OWNED, THOUGH THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THEIR DAILY OPERATION. THESE MEDIA ARE SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION OF A "HIGH AUTHORITY" WHOSE APPOINTMENT IS SHARED AMONG THE PRESIDENT, THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, AND THE SENATE. IN 1983, THE GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PRIVATE "FREE" RADIO STATIONS, MANY OF WHICH ARE SYMPATHETIC TO THE CURRENT POLITICAL OPPOSITION. ALLEGATIONS OF GOVERNMENT PRESSURE ON TELEVISION AND RADIO CONTINUE TO BE HEARD AND DENIED. GOVERNMENT CONTROLS ON THE AUDIOVISUAL MEDIA, HOWEVER, ARE NOT SO SIGNIFICANT AS TO REPRESENT A LIMITATION OF THE FREEDOMS ENJOYED BY THE FRENCH. A LAW DESIGNED TO REDUCE MONOPOLY HOLDINGS IN THE PRINTED PRESS WAS PUSHED THROUGH THE LEGISLATURE BY THE GOVERNMENT IN MID-1984
E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: SHUM, XX

SUBJECT: COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES:
DESPITE A CONCERTED OPPOSITION COUNTER-ATTACK
IN MID-OCTOBER THE RETROACTIVE PROVISIONS ON EXISTING
PRESS CONGLOMERATES WAS FOUND UNCONSTITUTIONAL
IN SEVERAL AREAS.

-
B. FREEDOM OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION

-

FREEDOM OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION IS CONSTITUTIONALLY GUARANTEED AND RESPECTED IN PRACTICE. LABOR UNIONS HAVE THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE FREE FROM GOVERNMENT CONTROL. THOUGH ONLY ONE-FIFTH OF LABOR IS UNIONIZED, TRADE UNIONS EXERCISE SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INFLUENCE. THEY ARE PRESENT AND ACTIVE IN NUMEROUS TRIPARTITE (GOVERNMENT, EMPLOYERS, AND LABOR) BODIES DEALING WITH SOCIAL MATTERS, INCLUDING LABOR COURTS AND THE PRESTIGIOUS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, A CONSTITUTIONALLY MANDATED CONSULTATIVE BODY. FRENCH UNIONS RANGE ACROSS THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM. ALL UNIONS ARE LEGALLY INDEPENDENT OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES. MANY OF THE LEADERS OF FRANCE'S LARGEST UNION, THE CGT, BELONG TO THE COMMUNIST PARTY (THE CGT GENERAL SECRETARY TRADITIONALLY IS A MEMBER OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU). LEADERS OF MOST OTHER UNIONS ARE MEMBERS OF ONE OR ANOTHER FACTION OF THE GOVERNING SOCIALIST PARTY ALTHOUGH MEMBERS OF OTHER PARTIES ARE ALSO ACTIVE IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT. ALL UNIONS CLAIM TO BE NON-POLITICAL. BOTH UNIONS AND EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATIONS ARE VERY ACTIVE IN THE ILO. THEY ALSO BELONG TO PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL BODIES (CGT - WFTU, FO - ICFTU, CFTD AND FO - ETUC, CFTC - WCL).

CONFIDENTIAL

C. FREEDOM OF RELIGION

-
ROMAN CATHOLICS COMPRISE BY FAR THE LARGEST RELIGIOUS GROUP IN FRANCE. SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE IS GUARANTEED BY THE FRENCH 1905 CONCORDAT WITH THE VATICAN (EXCEPT IN ALSACE AND A PORTION OF LORRAINE WHERE, FOR HISTORIC REASONS, THE CONCORDAT DOES NOT APPLY AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH ENJOYS A FAVORED STATUS). ALL OTHER RELIGIOUS GROUPS FUNCTION FREELY WITHOUT PERSECUTION OR RESTRICTIONS. THE CIVIL SERVICE IS OPEN TO MEMBERS OF ALL RELIGIONS. IN THE FACT OF STRONG PUBLIC REACTION TO PROPOSALS TO REDUCE STATE SUBSIDIES TO PRIVATE (LARGELY CATHOLIC) SCHOOLS, THE GOF THIS FALL MOVED FORWARD A COMPROMISE EDUCATION REFORM BILL WHICH MAINLY INVOLVES A TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION TO THE LOCAL LEVEL.
-
-

D. FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT WITHIN THE COUNTRY, FOREIGN

TRAVEL, EMIGRATION, AND REPATRIATION

-

FRANCE PROVIDES FOR FREEDOM OF INTERNAL MOVEMENT, FOREIGN TRAVEL, EMIGRATION AND REPATRIATION. EXCHANGE RESTRICTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS WERE RELAXED SHORTLY AFTER MID-YEAR; NOTABLY, THE LIMIT ON CREDIT CARD USE BY FRENCH CITIZENS ABROAD WAS ELIMINATED. THIS MOVE WAS PART OF A GENERAL RELAXATION OF EXCHANGE CONTROLS FOR ALL FRENCH RESIDENTS, BOTH INDIVIDUAL AND CORPORATE. ARRIVING REFUGEES, INTENDING EMIGRANTS, AND INTENDING REPATRIATES CAN UNDERTAKE FOREIGN TRAVEL AND, IN MOST INSTANCES, RETURN TO FRANCE. NEW MEASURES TO CONTROL IMMIGRATION ANNOUNCED IN OCTOBER 1984 COULD, INTER ALIA, SHARPLY RESTRICT THE RIGHT OF SOME ALIENS TO SETTLE THEIR FAMILIES IN FRANCE. FRANCE HAS AN EXTENSIVE RECORD OF REFUGEE AID AND RESETTLEMENT.
-
-

SECTION 3 - RESPECT FOR POLITICAL RIGHTS: THE

RIGHT OF CITIZENS TO CHANGE THEIR GOVERNMENT

THE FRENCH CONSTITUTION GUARANTEES THE EQUALITY OF ALL CITIZENS BEFORE THE LAW, WITHOUT REGARD TO ORIGIN, E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: SHUM, XX
SUBJECT: COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES: RACE OR RELIGION. ALL FRENCH CITIZENS OF BOTH SEXES WHO HAVE REACHED MAJORITY MAY VOTE.

CONFIDENTIAL

THESE PROVISIONS ARE FULLY RESPECTED IN PRACTICE. A WIDE VARIETY OF POLITICAL PARTIES COMPETE FREELY IN ELECTIONS. IN ADDITION TO NATIONAL, PRESIDENTIAL, AND LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS, THERE ARE REGULARLY SCHEDULED LOCAL ELECTIONS. THE GOVERNMENT IS IN THE PROCESS OF TRANSFERRING SIGNIFICANT POWERS FROM THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO THE LOCALLY ELECTED ASSEMBLIES.

A WIDE RANGE OF SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS -- LABOR, VETERANS, CONSUMER ADVOCATES, ECOLOGISTS, AND OTHERS -- ORGANIZE FREELY AND REGULARLY RUN CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIVE OFFICE. LEGISLATION OVER THE PAST YEAR HAS BEEN ENACTED TO BROADEN CIVIL LIBERTIES. WHILE ISOLATED INCIDENTS OF RACIAL, RELIGIOUS, OR POLITICAL DISCRIMINATION OCCUR, PARTICULARLY AGAINST THE LARGE IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY, THEY ARE NOT CONDONED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

SECTION 4 - GOVERNMENTAL ATTITUDE REGARDING INTERNATIONAL
AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS
OF HUMAN RIGHTS

FRANCE HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN A LEADER IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS AREA. HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS OPERATE FREELY IN FRANCE, INCLUDING AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. FREEDOM HOUSE RATES FRANCE "FREE".

ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL SITUATION

FRANCE HAS AN ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL MIXED ECONOMY ACCOMPANIED BY A SYSTEM OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY MEMBERS OF THE POPULATION, REGARDLESS OF RACE, RELIGION, SEX, ETHNIC BACKGROUND, OR POLITICAL OPINION. FRANCE'S POPULATION AS OF 1984 IS 54,872,000. POPULATION GROWTH RATE IS 0.4 PERCENT. PER CAPITA GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT IS DOLLARS 11,681. LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH IS 74.7 AND THE INFANT MORTALITY RATE 8.8/1000. THE ADULT LITERACY RATE IS 99 PERCENT. THE PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT RATE IS 92.2 (1981), AND THE RATIO OF CALORIC SUPPLY AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION RELATIVE TO NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS IS 136 PERCENT (1977).

WOMEN HAVE EQUAL STATUS UNDER THE LAW, BUT THEY REMAIN ENGAGED IN THE CONTINUING EFFORT TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN THEIR RIGHTS. A CABINET-LEVEL MINISTRY IS CHARGED WITH PROMOTING WOMEN'S RIGHTS. THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT IN 1984 TOOK STEPS TO CLOSE LOOPHOLES IN FRENCH LEGISLATION ON SEX DISCRIMINATION IN THE

CONFIDENTIAL

WORKPLACE AND TO ELIMINATE SEXIST ADVERTISING.
MARESCA

NNNN

CONFIDENTIAL